



U.S. Department of Justice

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **District Man Sentenced to Three-Year Prison Term For Sexually Assaulting Woman - Defendant Entered Home While Victim Was Asleep -**

WASHINGTON - William H. Faison, 42, of Washington, D.C., was sentenced today to a three-year prison term on charges stemming from a sexual assault that took place earlier this year in Northeast Washington, U.S. Attorney Ronald C. Machen Jr. announced.

Faison pled guilty in March 2011 to a charge of third degree sexual abuse. He was sentenced in the Superior Court of the District of Columbia by the Honorable Lynn Leibovitz. Upon completion of his prison term, Faison will be required to register under the Sex Offender Registration Act for a period of 10 years.

According to the government's evidence, on January 19, 2011, at about 11:20 p.m., Faison unlawfully entered the victim's home in the 1000 block of 44<sup>th</sup> Street NE. He had lived in the home previously, and apparently was able to enter the residence with a key.

The victim, who had been sleeping in an upstairs bedroom, heard noises downstairs and began to investigate. She opened her bedroom door, looked downstairs, and saw Faison standing inside her home. Even though she screamed, ordering Faison to leave, he would not go away. He ran into the victim's bedroom, removed his pants and underwear, ripped the victim's clothing, and then groped her buttocks and attempted to further sexually assault her.

As the victim struggled, Faison punched, bit and choked her, and he also banged her head repeatedly against a wall. Eventually, Faison ceased his attack and fled the victim's home. The victim promptly called the police and reported the assault.

Faison was arrested on February 4, 2011 and has been in custody ever since.

In announcing today's sentence, U.S. Attorney Machen expressed his appreciation to the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD), and particularly praised the work of Detective Ingrid Harkins. Mr. Machen also commended the work of Victim Advocate Tracy Hawkins, Paralegal

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Specialist Donahue Griffith, Legal Assistant Tanisha Nelson, and Assistant U.S. Attorney Karen Shinskie, who investigated and prosecuted the case.

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